

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims and add new Claim 15 as shown below. Please cancel Claims 5, 11 and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. The claims, as currently pending in the application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A data input apparatus for inputting a desired value, comprising:

first commanding means for inputting a command for incrementing a numeric value;

second commanding means for inputting a command for decrementing the numeric value;

first control means for controlling the amount of increment according to the length of time during which said first commanding means is uninterruptedly held;

second control means for controlling the amount of decrement according to the length of time during which said second commanding means is uninterruptedly held;

[[and]]

processing means for performing at least one of a process for incrementing the numeric value by the amount of increment controlled by said first control means and a process for decrementing the numeric value by the amount of decrement controlled by said second control means to determine the numeric value to be input;

voice input means for inputting voice; and

speech recognition means for performing speech recognition of inputted

voice.

wherein said speech recognition means recognizes the inputted voice by using, as recognizable words, numeric values near a value to which a process by said processing means is applied and, if a recognized numeric value matches any of said recognizable words, said processing means determines the numeric value corresponding to the matching word as a numeric value to be inputted.

2. (Original) The data input apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing means increases the speed of increment according to the length of time during which said first commanding means is uninterruptedly held and increases the speed of decrement according to the length of time during which said second commanding means is uninterruptedly held.

3. (Original) The data input apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first control means sets the amount of increment to a first amount if the length of time during which said first commanding means is uninterruptedly held is shorter than a predetermined length of time or sets the amount of increment to a second amount larger than the first amount if said length of time is equal to or longer than said predetermined length of time.

4. (Original) The data input apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said second control means sets the amount of decrement to a first amount if the length of time during which said second commanding means is uninterruptedly held is shorter than a predetermined length of time or sets the amount of decrement to a second amount larger

than the first amount if said length of time is equal to or longer than said predetermined length of time.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) A [[The]] data input apparatus according to claim 1, further for inputting a desired value, comprising:

first commanding means for inputting a command for incrementing a numeric value;

second commanding means for inputting a command for decrementing the numeric value;

first control means for controlling the amount of increment according to the length of time during which said first commanding means is uninterruptedly held;

second control means for controlling the amount of decrement according to the length of time during which said second commanding means is uninterruptedly held;

processing means for performing at least one of a process for incrementing the numeric value by the amount of increment controlled by said first control means and a process for decrementing the numeric value by the amount of decrement controlled by said second control means to determine the numeric value to be input; and

voice output means for outputting, as a voice, the numeric value as a result of at least one of the process for incrementing the numeric value or the process for decrementing the numeric value that is performed by said processing means.

7. (Currently Amended) A data input method for inputting a desired numeric value, comprising:

the first commanding step of inputting a command for incrementing a numeric value;

the second commanding step of inputting a command for decrementing the numeric value;

the first control step of controlling the amount of increment according to the length of time during which the command is being uninterruptedly inputted at said first commanding step;

the second control step of controlling the amount of decrement according to the length of time during which the command is being interruptedly inputted at said second commanding step; ~~means; and~~

the processing step of performing at least one of a process for incrementing the numeric value by the amount of increment controlled at said first control step and a process for decrementing the numeric value by the amount of decrement controlled at said second control step to determine the numeric value to be input;

the voice input step of inputting voice; and

the speech recognition step of performing speech recognition of inputted voice,

wherein, at said speech recognition step, the inputted voice is recognized by using, as recognizable words, numeric values near a value to which a process at said processing step is applied and, if a recognized numeric value matches any of said

recognizable words, the numeric value corresponding to the matching word is determined at said processing step as a numeric value to be inputted.

8. (Currently Amended) The data input method according to claim 7, wherein, at said processing step, the speed of increment is increased according to the length of time during which the command is being uninterruptedly inputted at said first commanding step and increases the speed of decrement according to the length of time during which the command is being uninterruptedly inputted at said second commanding [[means]] step.

9. (Original) The data input method according to claim 7, wherein, at said first control step, the amount of increment is set to a first amount if the length of time during which the command is uninterruptedly inputted at said first commanding step is shorter than a predetermined length of time or the amount of increment is set to a second amount larger than the first amount if said length of time is equal to or longer than said predetermined length of time.

10. (Original) The data input method according to claim 7, wherein, at said second control step, the amount of decrement is set to a first amount if the length of time during which the command is being uninterruptedly inputted at said second commanding step is shorter than a predetermined length of time or the amount of decrement is set to a second amount larger than the first amount if said length of time is equal to or longer than said predetermined length of time.

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A [[The]] data input method according to claim 7, further for inputting a desired numeric value, comprising;

the first commanding step of inputting a command for incrementing a numeric value;

the second commanding step of inputting a command for decrementing the numeric value;

the first control step of controlling the amount of increment according to the length of time during which the command is being uninterruptedly inputted at said first commanding step;

the second control step of controlling the amount of decrement according to the length of time during which the command is being interruptedly inputted at said second commanding step;

the processing step of performing at least one of a process for incrementing the numeric value by the amount of increment controlled at said first control step and a process for decrementing the numeric value by the amount of decrement controlled at said second control step to determine the numeric value to be input; and

the voice output step of outputting, as a voice, the numeric value as a result of at least one of the process for incrementing the numeric value or the process for decrementing the numeric value that is performed at said processing step.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing
a computer program for causing a computer to perform the data input method according to
claim 7.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (New) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer
program for causing a computer to perform the data input method according to claim 12.